

correspondence of the Central Government are carried out in English; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that step-motherly treatment is meted out to the Officers, Editors and Translators looking after the work of Hindi in various Government/autonomous institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Hindi is the Official Language of the Union. Parliament has passed a resolution in december, 1967 directing the Centre Government to prepare a "Annual Programme" every year and send it to all Ministries etc. for implementation and to place a "Annual Assessment Report" on the table of both the house of Parliament. This is being completely implemented. Last "Annual Assessment Report" has been laid on the table of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 6.12.1999 and 8.12.1999 respectively, copies of which are also available in Parliament library.

(c) Employees connected with Hindi are equivalent to other employees and no discrimination can be done with them.

Strengthening of Para-Military and State Police

2520. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are exploring ways to overhaul and strengthen para-military forces and State police to make them more effective wherever they are deployed;

(b) if so, whether a task force has been recently constituted on internal security;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Task Force; and

(d) to what extent the overhauling of the para-military forces is going to check left wing extremism and drug trafficking in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO:) (a) The strengthening of Para Military Forces is a continuous process. The performance of these Forces is reviewed from time to time and necessary steps are taken to improve their effectiveness. These include raising of additional Battalions, as well as upgradation of weaponry, equipment and training facilities. The strengthening of State Police is the responsibility of the State Government. However, Central Government has been providing Financial Assistance to the State Government under the Scheme for Modernisation of State Police Forces to improve their Police infrastructure. In case of terrorism/extremism affected States, Government is giving funds under recoupment of Security Related Expenditure scheme for strengthening the State Police apparatus.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Task Force has not yet submitted its report.

(d) The purpose of strengthening and modernisation of the Para Military Forces is to equip these forces suitably so as to enable them eliminate such activities, in collaboration with other law enforcement agencies.

Ribeiro Committee Recommendations

2521. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ribeiro Committee was constituted to study recommendations of the National Police Commission as well as the National Human Right Commission's to free the Police force from excessive political control;

(b) if so, whether despite recommendations made by the Committee, Government have not acted upon on such recommendations;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to implement the recommendations in toto?